



DANUBE  
INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

# Ecclesiastes

LIFE IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY





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## The Question That Haunts Us

### Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

## **Ecclesiastes 1:1-11**

- 1 The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.**
- 2 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.**
- 3 What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?**
- 4 A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.**
- 5 The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises.**
- 6 The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.**
- 7 All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again.**
- 8 All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.**
- 9 What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.**
- 10 Is there a thing of which it is said, See, this is new? It has been already in the ages before us.**
- 11 There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be among those who come after.**



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# The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

***“It is she that has got all Narnia under her thumb. It’s she that makes it always winter. Always Winter and never Christmas. Think of that.”  
Lucy responds simply,  
“How awful!”***





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**Ecclesiastes is really a book of Grace disguised as winter...  
disguised as frustration...disguised as dissatisfaction.  
So that, it may lead you to the only One who can truly satisfy  
you, truly fulfill you and give life meaning.**



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## ORIENTATION

CONTEXT

CONTENT

“The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.”

“*Qoheleth*”

Eccl. 1:1

“*Ekklesiastes*”



# ECCLESIASTES

## LIFE IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY

<b>FOCUS</b>	<b>THEISIS: “ALL IS VANITY”</b>	<b>PROOF: “LIFE IS VAIN”</b>	<b>COUNSEL: “FEAR GOD”</b>	
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1:1	1:12	7:1	12:14
<b>TOPIC</b>	ILLUSTRATIONS OF VANITY			
	DECLARATION OF VANITY	DEMONSTRATION OF VANITY		FROM VANITY
<b>LOCATION</b>	UNIVERSE: “UNDER THE SUN”			
<b>TIME</b>	c. 935 B.C			



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## **ORIENTATION OF ECCLESIASTES**

**It's a book about Emptiness**

**It's a book about Enjoyment**

**It's a book about Eternity**

**Ecclesiastes is a book of Grace disguised as winter.**



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# **The Question That Haunts Us**

**Ecclesiastes 1:1-11**

**Thesis - 1:1-3**

**Topic sentence - 1:4**

**Illustrations - 1:5-11**



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# The Question That Haunts Us

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

## Thesis

- 2 **Vanity of vanities**, says the Preacher, **vanity of vanities! All is vanity.**  
3 What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?

## Hevel

# The Question That Haunts Us

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11





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# The Question That Haunts Us

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

## Thesis

**2 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.**

**3 What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?**



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# **The Question That Haunts Us**

**Ecclesiastes 1:1-11**

**I. We Confuse Movement with Meaning Ecclesiastes 1:5–8**

**II. We Confuse Progress with Purpose Ecclesiastes 1:9–11**



# The Question That Haunts Us

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

## Topic Sentence

**2 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.**

**3 What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?**

**4 A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.**

**CYCLES**



# The Question That Haunts Us

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

## I. We Confuse Movement with Meaning Ecclesiastes 1:5–8

*5 The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises. 6 The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.*

*7 All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again. 8 All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.*



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**Creation is faithful, but it is not final.  
It is orderly, but it is not satisfying.**



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**The problem is not that we expect too little from life, but that we expect the wrong thing from the wrong source.**



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- Creation moves endlessly (vv. 5–7)
- Humans follow suit internally (v. 8)
- And the result is weariness, not rest



# The Question That Haunts Us

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

## II. We Confuse Progress with Purpose Ecclesiastes 1:9–11

9 What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. 10 Is there a thing of which it is said, See, this is new? It has been already in the ages before us. 11 There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be among those who come after.



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- **History accumulates events, not meaning.**
- **Time produces succession, not salvation.**



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**The weight of forgetfulness**



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## APPLICATION

- **The illusion of novelty** “This is new” (v. 10)
- **The illusion of progress** “Things are finally getting better”
- **The illusion of permanence** “What I do will be remembered”



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Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

## APPLICATION

### Practical Steps

- Name the treadmill: Identify where motion has replaced meaning
- Schedule silence: Put reflection where busyness once ruled
- *Ask one honest question each week: "What am I chasing right now, and why?"*
- Invite wise voices: Don't discern purpose alone

### Spiritual Resources

- Prayer — not just asking for help, but listening
- Scripture — letting God define meaning, not culture
- Fellowship — allowing others to slow you down
- Sabbath rhythms — rehearsing trust instead of control



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